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P R E F A C E.

THIS volume comprises a record of twelve meetings of the Society, from January, 1906, to March, 1907, both inclusive, and forms the twentieth volume of the Second Series of the Proceedings. The late Recording Secretary, Rev. Dr. Young, was on the Committee for publishing the first nineteen volumes, and down to the close of the fourth volume the chief labor in their preparation and publication rested on him. Rev. Dr. McKenzie has been on the Committee for all the volumes. The late Clement Hugh Hill was on the Committee for the first four volumes, and rendered very useful service. In consequence of his absence in England, and the adoption of an additional By-Law, the undersigned took his place in December, 1889, and became the working member of the Committee. On the resignation of Dr. Young as Recording Secretary, at the end of 1905, Mr. Stanwood, his successor as Secretary, became *ex-officio* a member of the Committee.

A Consolidated Index to this Series is now in preparation by Mr. D. M. Matteson, under the direction of a special committee, Messrs. Albert B. Hart and Roger B. Merriman, and will be published at an early day.

This volume is especially rich in memoirs of deceased members, each of which is accompanied by a portrait; and there are a large number of hitherto unpublished documents of more or less historical or biographical interest. Among these the letters of William Duane communicated by MR. FORD, and the slavery documents communicated by MR. HART, are especially noteworthy. Among the original communications the papers by the PRESIDENT on the unveiling of the bust of James Savage, on the attitude of Great Britain toward the United States during the Civil War, on the Centenary of Robert E. Lee, and on Longfellow as an Historical Poet; by MR. STANWOOD on the Massachusetts Election in 1806; by MR. SANBORN on St. John de Crèvecoeur; by MR. THOMAS L. LIVERMORE on the Appomattox Campaign; by MR. THAYER on Longfellow as a National Poet; and by MR. EVERETT on the lack of satisfactory biographies of the eminent men of the provincial period will also attract notice.

For the Committee,

CHARLES C. SMITH.

BOSTON, June 27, 1907.